

6.0 DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

The following are working definitions of terms and acronyms frequently utilized by MaineDOT.

6.1 Definitions

AADT - Average Annual Daily Traffic. A planning tool to measure the average daily traffic over a year's time.

$$\text{AADT} = \frac{\text{estimated total annual traffic}}{365}$$

Used by the Bureau of Planning as a factor in making critical transportation decisions dealing with the administration, project development and maintenance and operation of highways.

AAH - Adopt - A - Highway Program

AASHTO - American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. A non-profit, non-partisan association representing the member highway and transportation departments in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, and is essentially an instrument of these agencies. Its interests cover the five principal transportation modes and its major purpose is to foster the development, operation, and maintenance of an integrated transportation system. The work of the association is divided into four general areas: technical activities; policy development activities; information activities; and liaison activities.

ACIP – Airport Capital Improvement Plan

ADA - Americans with Disabilities Act of 1991. A major civil rights law passed by Congress to establish access to programs, employment, housing, public services, etc., for those Americans with physical and/or mental disabilities.

AGC - Associated General Contractors. A national association of building contractors and heavy highway and bridge contractors with state affiliates. The Association's main purpose is to represent its membership's interests before Congress and State legislatures and to keep its membership informed and educated on new or amended laws and regulations.

ANSI - American National Standards Institute. The United States clearinghouse and coordinating body for voluntary standards activity on the national level. It has approved 8000 standards to date, each standard representing general agreement among maker, seller and user groups reflecting a consensus. The institute is a federation of trade, professional groups, and consumer organizations.

BAQC - Bureau of Air Quality Control. A branch of the State's Department of Environmental Protection which exists to carry out State air pollution law and the federal CAAA of 1990. The Bureau administers field services, monitors activities, compliance activities, licensing and technical services related to air quality.

BEP - Board of Environmental Protection. Part of the executive branch of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), along with the commissioner and deputy commissioner of MDEP. The Board consists of 10 members appointed to four-year terms by the governor. The purpose of the board is to preside over public hearings and make findings of facts and order on projects which are not delegated to the commissioner; reviews staff recommendations and licensing decisions; serve as an appeals body for environmental decisions; and promulgates; rules and policies interpreting the statutes administered by MDEP.

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Bicycle Route - A segment of a bicycle system, with or without a specific and unique number, designated with appropriate directional and informational signage.

BTIP - Biennial Transportation Improvement Program. The list of projects proposed through MaineDOT for funding implementation during a two-year time frame.

CAAA - Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The law that updates and puts authority behind the earlier Clean Air Act. This law specifically ties clean air improvements to receipt of federal transportation funding and imposes requirements on the transportation sector.

Capacity - Capacity is defined as the maximum hourly rate at which persons or vehicles can reasonably be expected to traverse major distribution areas during a given time period under prevailing roadway, traffic and traffic control conditions.

CMAQ - Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program. A program under ISTEA to assist the states with implementation and compliance under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. The program funds projects that are calculated to reduce ozone precursors.

CO - Carbon Monoxide. A colorless, odorless, tasteless gas formed in large part by incomplete combustion of fuel. Fuel combustion activities (i.e., transportation, industrial processes, space heating, etc.) are the major sources of CO. High concentrations of CO can develop near these combustion sources. Therefore, facility specific or "hotspot" analysis is often used to identify potential CO problems. Carbon Monoxide is addressed under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Maine does not exceed the CO standard at present.

COG's - Councils of Government

DBE - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program. A program of the federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) of 1987 and ISTEA of 1991 which sets up an affirmative action program for businesses owned and controlled by minorities and women.

DECD - Department of Economic and Community Development. A cabinet level agency charged with three major policy functions: to attract and assist business, to develop and manage tourism, and to oversee community development.

EPA - The Environmental Protection Agency. The federal agency in charge of protecting the environment including the implementation of the provisions of the CAAA of 1990 on the federal level and federal Clean Water Act.

FAA - Federal Aviation Administration. A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation charged with responsibilities to administer programs and funding impacting aviation.

FHWA - Federal Highway Administration. A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation charged with responsibilities for administering programs and funding impacting highway transportation.

FTA - Federal Transit Administration. A branch of the U.S. Department of Transportation charged with responsibility of administering programs and funding impacting mass transit. It was formerly known as UMTA, the Urban Mass Transit Administration.

Heavy Haul Road - A road determined to be used extensively by the forest product industry and therefore needing additional structural improvement to maintain the quality of the road.

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HAZMAT - Hazardous Materials. Any materials which, if exposed to a human being, would have adverse affects on his/her health and/or safety as defined by the Office of Safety and Health Administration.

HOV - High Occupancy Vehicle. Any motor vehicle with more than one occupant.

HPMS - Highway Performance Monitoring System. A data collecting tool used by MaineDOT to test the condition, performance, and loading placed on the pavements of the state's highway network. Such monitoring is a requirement of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and is part of the MaineDOT Pavement Management System (PMS).

ISTEA - The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. Represents the first major shift in national transportation policy since the Interstate Highway System was completed. The ISTEA recognizes and puts into place programs and funding for a variety of transportation modes including preservation of existing systems along with transportation initiatives.

IVHS - Intelligent Vehicle Highway System. A long-range "future" program which would mesh "smart cars" with specially built highways and advanced traffic management systems which could then map and guide the vehicle over its shortest, quickest route. The object of IVHS is to ease congestion.

LEV - Low Emission Vehicle program. A CAAA-related program which states may adopt to assist with compliance with CAAA of 1990. Maine has adopted the LEV program contingent upon action taken by other states in the northeast.

Localizer - Part of Instrument Landing System.

Maintenance - Maintenance is to preserve and repair vehicles, machinery, equipment, and transportation facilities to their designated or accepted standards. It may be scheduled, planned, progressive, or periodic (preventive maintenance), or it may be unscheduled or corrective.

MBTA - Maine Better Transportation Association (Previously known as Maine Better Highways). This is a coalition of public and private agencies and organizations committed to long-term transportation funding. The Association lobbies the State legislature to that end.

MDEP - Maine Department of Environmental Protection. A cabinet level agency within State government. The agency is charged by law with the protection and improvement of the quality of the natural environment and its resources, and the enhancement of the environment through ecologically sound growth and development policies and programs. It is the agency which is charged to administer the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 and the Natural Resources Protection Act, among others.

MaineDOT - Maine Department of Transportation. A cabinet level agency of State government with the authority to plan and develop adequate, safe and efficient transportation facilities and services which will contribute to the economic growth of Maine and the well-being of its people. The planning and development of such facilities and services shall be coordinated by the Department.

MaineDOT Fact Sheets - an insert to the Traffic Movement Permit which contains the standard details and list of reference manuals the applicant must abide by.

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MLRC - Maine Local Roads Center. A division of the MaineDOT that offers assistance to municipalities, including technical assistance, information, relating to the maintenance, construction, and management of local roads.

MMA - Maine Municipal Association. Statewide advocacy organization representing Maine's towns and cities in a wide range of issues.

MPO - Metropolitan Planning Organization. A forum for cooperative transportation decision making for a metropolitan planning area. Maine has four such organizations one for the Kittery area (KACTS); one for the Bangor area (BACTS); one for the Lewiston-Auburn area (ARTC); and one for the Portland area (PACTS). (ACTS stands for Area Comprehensive Transportation Study).

MRSA - Maine Revised Statutes Annotated. The compilation of the State's laws in a format which allows for updating. It is typically seen as a reference for a specific law, i.e., 23 MRSA 73 refers to the Sensible Transportation Policy Act.

MSFS - Maine State Ferry Service is a branch of the MaineDOT Office of Passenger Transportation. The MSFS services six islands off the Maine coast: Frenchboro and Swan's Island out of Bass Harbor; Islesboro out of Lincolnville; North Haven, Vinalhaven, and Matinicus out of Rockland.

MTA - Maine Transit Association. The organization represents 20 public transit operators in the State. MaineDOT administers grants to 18 of these operators.

MTA - Maine Turnpike Authority. A legal body established chiefly with the purpose of constructing, maintaining, reconstructing, and operating a toll turnpike from Kittery to Augusta.

MTS - Motor Transport Services. This is a division within the MaineDOT's Bureau of Maintenance and Operations charged with the purchase, maintenance, and management of the entire MaineDOT equipment fleet.

MUTCD - Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. This manual sets out national standards for the design and installation of traffic control signs and other highway signs, traffic signals, and road markings.

NAAQS - National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Federal standards that set allowable concentrations and exposure limits for various pollutants. The EPA developed the standard in response to a requirement of the CAAA. The NAAQS ensures that certain pollutants do not exceed specified levels more than once a year. The threshold for each pollutant ensures protection for even the most sensitive groups of the population. Areas with levels that violate the standard are designated as nonattainment areas for whichever pollutants are involved. Nonattainment areas must reduce the emissions from the source causing the pollution. There are three types of source: mobile, stationary, and area sources.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act. A federal law established to insure that federally funded projects have a minimal impact on the environment; natural, cultural, and economic. MaineDOT is obligated to consider all environmental factors under NEPA for all of its federally funded projects. The MaineDOT Bureau of Planning is responsible for this aspect of project development.

NHS - National Highway System. All the major roads in the United States, including all interstate routes and a large percentage of urban and rural principal arterial highways, and those considered part of the defense strategic

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highway network and strategic highway connectors. Formerly referred to as HNS, (Highways of National Significance).

Nonattainment Area - A geographic region of the United States that the EPA has designated as not meeting the NAAQS.

NO_x - Oxides of Nitrogen. One of two precursors necessary to form ozone. The CAAA of 1990 requires reduction of NO_x and volatile organic compounds (VOC). NO_x + VOC + Sunlight + Heat = Ozone.

NPDES - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. National stormwater program mandated under the federal Clean Water Act. The goal is to reduce pollutant loadings to the environment and to require stringent controls where necessary to assure attainment of state water quality standards and designated uses. Each transportation project must be addressed under this law and must meet Clean Water Standards.

NRCM - Natural Resources Council of Maine. One of Maine's leading environmental advocacy organizations working to protect Maine's natural resources through advocacy, legal defense and education. The Council has a strong focus on pollution prevention. The Council's primary issues are: clean air; protection of Maine's rivers, lakes, coast; and North Woods; growth management; transportation alternatives; energy efficiency; recycling and waste reduction; and reducing the use of toxic chemicals.

NRPA - Natural Resources Protection Act. The Natural Resources Protection Act (NRPA) is the Maine State law that regulates disturbances in, over, or adjacent to wetlands, streams, and other water bodies.

Off-Road - Denotes a facility which is not within the highway right-of-way.

On-Road - Denotes a facility which is within the highway right-of-way.

Ozone - Ozone is a colorless gas with a sweet odor. Ozone is not a direct emission from transportation sources. It is a secondary pollutant formed when VOC and NO_x combine in the presence of sunlight. The ozone is associated with smog or haze conditions. Although the ozone in the upper atmosphere protects us from harmful ultraviolet rays, ground level ozone produces an unhealthy environment in which to live. Ozone is created by human and natural sources.

PCE - Preconstruction Engineering. A term used by MaineDOT to indicate all necessary work such as surveys, preliminary engineering, preliminary and final design and environmental work is done and the project is ready to be funded for construction.

Passenger car equivalent (PCE) - The number of passenger cars or, in the case of non-passenger vehicles, the number of passenger cars that would be displaced by non-passenger car vehicles. One tractor-trailer combination is the equivalent of two passenger cars.

PM₁₀ - An air pollutant composed of suspended particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter.

Reasonable Transportation Alternatives - Reasonable transportation alternatives are ones which adequately respond to the identified deficiency or need in the transportation network, are cost effective, and are capable of being implemented within a reasonable time period necessary to meet the transportation deficiency or need.

RPO - Regional Planning Commissions/Organizations whose purposes are to promote cooperative efforts toward regional development, prepare and maintain a comprehensive regional plan with adequate public input in its

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preparation, coordinate with State and federal planning and development programs and provide planning assistance and advisory services to municipalities and to RTACs.

SIP - State Implementation Plan. A plan mandated by the CAAA that contains procedures to monitor, control, maintain, and enforce compliance with the NAAQS. The SIP serves as a blueprint which will show EPA how Maine will meet compliance requirements of the CAAA of 1990. Transportation planning must take the SIP into account. The SIP is a plan developed and administered by the Department of Environmental Protection.

SOV - Single Occupancy Vehicle. Transportation planning must consider measures which will reduce use of such vehicle trips and as a result, reduce vehicle emissions, and promote energy efficiency to assist in compliance of the CAAA of 1990.

SPO - State Planning Office is a branch of the Executive Department of the State. Its purpose is three-fold: short-term analysis; long-range policy analysis; and program coordination. The Office assists the Governor and other state agencies in the development of economic, energy, fiscal and regulatory policy.

STIP - Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. A multi-year, Statewide, intermodal program of transportation projects consistent with all other required transportation plans developed within the state. The STIP is a Federal funding document and must be consistent with the STP and must be updated every three years

STP - Statewide Transportation Plan. The STP is the twenty-year long-range Statewide intermodal transportation plan.

STPA - Sensible Transportation Policy Act. A Maine law passed by referendum vote in November of 1991. The passage led to the eventual creation of the RTACs. It sets objectives for all transportation planning projects and capital investment decisions. An outgrowth of the STPA, the rule was promulgated in 1992 to establish the procedures called for under the STPA. The rule was promulgated by a special committee made up of a variety of public and private interests known as TPAC under a consensus rulemaking process.

TCM - Transportation Control Measures - Any measure in a SIP directed toward reducing emissions of air pollutants from transportation sources by improving traffic flow, reducing congestion, or reducing vehicle use.

TDM - Transportation Demand Management. Actions which are designed to change travel behavior in order to improve performance of transportation facilities and to reduce need for additional highway capacity. Methods may include, but are not limited to, ride-sharing and vanpool programs, trip-reduction incentives and congestion mitigation pricing. These methods will generally be evaluated on a regional basis rather than a project by project basis.

TIP - Transportation Improvement Program which selects and schedules projects for funding as required by Federal Transportation Acts.

TMA - Transportation Management Associations are public/private partnerships organized to address local commuter mobility needs. TMA's are largely a phenomenon of suburban areas, but are growing to serve downtown

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environments as well. Most often TMA's are formed either to address current problems, such as traffic congestion, or to anticipate or prevent such problems.

TPAC - Transportation Policy Advisory Committee. This body, made up of representatives of nearly 60 interest groups, was called together by the MaineDOT Commissioner in 1992 to develop the Sensible Transportation Policy Act Rule. The group worked together under a format known as negotiated rulemaking. The group developed the Rule through consensus.

Transportation Mode - A particular form of travel such as traveling by foot, automobile, bus, passenger and freight, intercity rail, urban light rail, waterborne passenger and freight vessels, air transport and bicycle.

Transportation System Management Options - Techniques for increasing the efficiency, safety, capacity or level of service of a transportation facility without increasing its number of through travel lanes. Examples include, but are not limited to, traffic signal improvements, traffic control devices including installing medians, parking removal, channelization, access management, ramp metering, and striping for high occupancy vehicle lanes.

UAM - Urban Airshed Model. A computer model which assists the prediction of "ozone occurrences" by using ozone precursor data. The UAM will analyze the data gathered throughout New England including weather patterns.

URIP - Urban-Rural Initiative Program. The purpose of the Urban-Rural Initiative Program is to provide equitable financial assistance to communities for their use in improving local roads, maintaining state roads in urban areas and

assisting the State in making capital improvements to state aid minor collector highways. In order to meet the purposes the Urban-Rural Initiative Program has a Rural Initiative and an Urban Compact Initiative as components.

VMT - Vehicle Miles Traveled. A calculation used in a variety of ways by transportation planners. VMT is the sum of distances traveled by all motor vehicles in a specified region. VMT is used to determine air emissions from the transportation sector and is used to plan reduction in ozone to meet CAAA standards.

VOC - Volatile Organic Compounds. One of two precursors necessary to form ozone. The CAAA of 1990 requires reduction of Nox and VOC's.

6.2 Acronyms

The following are working acronyms frequently utilized by MDOT. However, they are not necessarily encountered in this guide.

4Es	Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Enforcement
AADT	Average Annual Daily Traffic
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials
ACM	Associated Contractors of Maine
ACOE	US Army Corps of Engineers

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ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AIP	Airport Improvement Program
ALS	Approach Light System
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
ATP	Air Transportation Program
ATRC	Androscoggin Transportation Resource Center
AVA	Aroostook Valley Railroad
AWS	Automated Weather Station
BACTS	Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation Study
BAQC	Bureau of Air Quality Control (DEP)
BAR	Bangor and Aroostook Railroad
BCM	Bicycle Coalition of Maine
BEP	Board of Environmental Protection
BIA	Bicycle Institute of America Bureau of Indian Affairs
BFA	Bicycle Federation of American
BML	Belfast and Moosehead Lake Railroad
BMT	Bicycle Miles Traveled
BTIP	Biennial Transportation Improvement Program
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAAA	Clean Air Act Amendments 1990
CADD	Computer Aided Design and Drafting
CAR	Canadian American Railroad
CE	Categorical Exclusion
CIP	Capital Improvement Program

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CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program
CMP	Congestion Mitigation Project/Program
CMS	Congestion Management System
CO	Carbon Monoxide
COFC	Container on Flat Car
COG	Council of Governments
CP	Canadian Pacific Limited (Railroad)
DBE	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
DECD	Department of Economic and Community Development
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection (also MDEP)
DOE	Department of Energy (Federal)
EA	Environment Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMR	Eastern Maine Railway Company
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FBD	Ferry Boat Discretionary Program
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration (US DOT)
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration (US DOT)
FTA	Federal Transit Administration (US DOT)
GIS	Geographic Information System
GVW	Gross Vehicle Weight
GPS	Global Positioning System, Instrument Approach
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials

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HC	Hydrocarbons
HIRL	High Intensity Runway Lighting System
HPMS	Highway Performance Monitoring System
HOV	High Occupant Vehicle
HSIP	Highway Safety Improvement Program
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development (Federal)
ILS/MLS	Instrument Landing System, Microwave Landing
I/M	Inspection and Maintenance Program
IMBA	International Mountain Bike Association
ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (TEA 21)
IVHS	Intelligent Vehicle Highway System
KACTS	Kittery Area Comprehensive Transportation Study
LAW	League of American Wheelmen
LEV	Low Emission Vehicle Program Other LEV's - ULEV, TLEV, ZEV
LIRL	Low Intensity Runway Lighting System
LRAP	Local Road Assistance Program (now known as URIP)
LORAN C	Long Range Navigation System - C Mode
MIRL	Medium Intensity Runway Lighting
MCR	Maine Coast Railroad
MBC	Maine Bicycle Council
MBTA	Maine Better Transportation Association
M&O	Maintenance and Operation (Bureau of MaineDOT)
MDEP	Maine Department of Environmental Protection (also DEP)
MAINEDOT	Maine Department of Transportation

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MLRC	Maine Local Roads Center
MMA	Maine Municipal Association
MPO	Metropolitan Planning Organization (BACTS, ATRC, KACTS, PACTS)
MRSA	Maine Revised Statutes Annotated
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
MSFS	Maine State Ferry Service
MTA	Maine Turnpike Authority Maine Tourism Association
MTP	Mass Transit Program
MUTCD	Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standard
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NBSRC	New Brunswick Southern Railway Company
NDB	Non-Directional Radio Beacon
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NESCAUM	North East State Coordinated Air Use Management
NETI	New England Transportation Initiative
NHN	New Hampshire Northcoast Corporation
NHS	National Highway Systems
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NMT	Non-Motorized Transportation
NORBA	National Off Road Bicycle Association
NO_x	Nitrogen Oxides
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NRCM	Natural Resources Council of Maine

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NRPA	Natural Resources Protection Act.
NSC	National Safety Council
OBDS	Official Business Directional Sign
OPC	Office of Policy and Communication (MaineDOT)
PACTS	Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation Study
PCE	Preconstruction Engineering
PCE	Passenger car equivalent
PROJEX	Project Scheduling & Resource Management System
REIL	Runway End Identification Lights
ROW	Right-of-Way
RPO	Regional Planning Commission/Organization
RRIP	Rural Road Initiative Program
Section 402	Federal Highway Safety Funds
SHRP	Strategic Highway Research Program
SIP	State Implementation Plan (DEP)
SLR	St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad
SOV	Single Occupancy Vehicle
SPO	State Planning Office
STAA	Surface Transportation Assistance Act 1987
ST	Springfield Terminal Railroad
STIP	Statewide Transportation Improvement Program - 3 yr Plan
STP	Surface Transportation Program
STPA	Sensible Transportation Policy Act (1991)
NRTF	National Recreational Trails Fund
TDM	Travel Demand Management

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TEA 21	The NEW Sensible Transportation Policy Act
TIDE	Transportation Information for Decision Enhancement (MaineDOT)
TINIS	Transportation Integrated Network Information System
TIP	Transportation Improvement Program (see BTIP)
TLEV	Transitional Low Emission Vehicle
TMA	Transportation Management Association
TOFC	Trailer on Flatcar
TPAC	Transportation Policy Advisory Committee
TRB	Transportation Research Board
TSM	Transportation System Management
UAM	Urban Airshed Model
UCI	Union of Cycliste International
ULEV	Ultra Low Emission Vehicle
URIP	Urban Rural Initiative Program
USC	United States Code
USCF	United States Cycling Federation
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
UVC	Uniform Vehicle Code
VASI/P	Visual Approach Slope Indicator Precision Approach Slope Indicator
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds
VOR	Very High Frequency Omni Range
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
ZEV	Zero Emission Vehicle